

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 258936
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 258936

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, PINS, AO, CG, ASEC

SUBJECT:FLEC REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT WITH USG OFFICIALS

REF: KINSHASA 10066

1. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE WISE
FOR USG OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON TO AGREE TO MEET WITH FLEC.
NOT ONLY WOULD THERE BE LITTLE TO GAIN, FROM USG STAND-
POINT, FROM SUCH A MEETING, BUT IT COULD GIVE BOTH FLEC
AND OTHERS MISTAKEN IMPRESSION ABOUT USG INTEREST IN FLEC.
THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE OBJECTION, WE BELIEVE
AMBASSADOR SHOULD MEET WITH FLEC.

2. IN MEETING WITH NZITA AND OTHER FLEC OFFICIALS, YOU
SHOULD MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. AMBASSADOR MEETING WITH FLEC IS IN RESPONSE TO THEIR
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 258936

REQUEUST TO SEE WASHINGTON OFFICIALS, WITH WHOM IT WILL
NOT BE POSSIBLE TO MEET.

B. AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH FLEC IS IN CONTEXT OF OUR
GENERAL POLICY OF BEING READY TO LISTEN TO ALL SHADES OF
OPINION.

C. (IF ASKED) U.S. ASSISTANCE TO FLEC IS OUT OF THE QUESTION. THE U.S. CANNOT PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR SEPARATIST MOVEMENTS. CONGRESSIONAL PROHIBITION VIS-A-VIS ANGOLA WOULD MAKE SUCH AID IMPOSSIBLE IN ANY CASE.

D. WE ARE DISMAYED BY THE CONTINUING BLOODSHED IN CABINDA AND THE REST OF ANGOLA AND FERVENTLY HOPE THAT THE PARTIES INVOLVED CAN FIND THEIR WAY TO PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL.

E. FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS THE USG IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF THE CABINDAN REFUGEES IN ZAIRE. IT IS CLEAR THAT MANY OF THEM ARE IN THE MOST DIRE STRAITS AND HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVING SUFFICIENT FOOD. WE BELIEVE THAT RECENT CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LOCAL UNHCR PROGRAM WILL HELP ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION TO SOME EXTENT. NONETHELESS, WASHINGTON IS CONTINUING TO SEEK WAYS OF HELPING THESE REFUGEES, AS EVIDENCED BY THE RECENT VISIT TO THE REFUGEE CAMPS OF A DELEGATION FROM WASHINGTON, AND WILL CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON THE PROBLEM UNTIL A CLEAR IMPROVEMENT IS BROUGHT ABOUT. FLEC IS NO DOUBT AWARE OF THE FOOD AND OTHER U.S. SUPPORT WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN CONTRIBUTED FOR THESE REFUGEES.

F. WE ARE VERY DISMAYED BY PERIODIC THREATS FROM FLEC LEADERS TO SABOTAGE GULF FACILITIES. FLEC SHOULD REALIZE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 258936

THAT IT ONLY STANDS TO LOSE FROM SUCH ACTIONS. THE EMBASSY IS HAPPY TO MEET WITH FLEC REPRESENTATIVES, HEAR THEM OUT, AND DISCUSS PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE PLIGHT OF THE REFUGEES. BUT FLEC OBVIOUSLY CANNOT EXPECT EVEN THAT DEGREE OF COOPERATION IF IT CONTINUES MAKING SUCH THREATS.
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